

We claim:

1. A wound dressing, comprising:

an absorbent core defining opposed proximal and distal surfaces, the distal surface including a central portion and a border portion;

a perforated, skin adherent facing layer secured to the proximal surface of the absorbent core; and

a liquid impervious, vapor permeable backing layer connected to the distal surface of the absorbent core, said backing layer defining at least one compliant element disassociated from the distal surface of the absorbent core.

2. The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the at least one compliant element corresponds to an intermediate portion of the absorbent core interposed between the border and central portions thereof.

3. The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the compliant element includes at least one ridge concentric with the periphery of the absorbent core and extending outwardly relative to the distal surface of the absorbent core.

4. The wound dressing according to claim 3, wherein the at least one ridge of the compliant element is configured to extend outwardly relative to the distal surface of the absorbent core when said wound dressing has absorbed a maximum amount of moisture content.

5. The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the absorbent core contains a plurality of discrete portions of at least one moisture absorbent material.

6. The wound dressing according to claim 5,

wherein when said wound dressing is in a dry state, a central portion of the backing layer corresponding to the central portion of the absorbent core is adhered to the distal surface of the absorbent core; and

wherein the connection between the central portions of the backing layer and the absorbent core is configured so as to permit detachment of the backing layer from the absorbent core and the formation of a reservoir therebetween as said absorbent core and the absorbent material absorb moisture.

7. The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the backing layer seals the border portion of the absorbent core.

8. The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the absorbent core includes a pattern of a plurality of receptacles each containing a discrete portion of at least one absorbent material.

9. The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein said absorbent core is hydrophilic foam.

10. The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein said absorbent core is a non-woven material.

11. The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the facing layer is a discrete layer of silicone gel.

12. The wound dressing according to claim 11, wherein the silicone gel layer is substantially planar along a proximal surface thereof.

13. The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the backing layer is selected from the group consisting of latex rubber, silicone film, polyurethane film, and polyethylene film.

14. The wound dressing according to claim 4, wherein the backing layer is stretchable to the extent that a 75% elongation without rupture is produced when the wound dressing is saturated with moisture.

15. The wound dressing according to claim 5, wherein the at least one absorbent material is selected from the group consisting of hydrocolloids, hydrogels, and hydrophilic polymers.

16. The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein at least one compliant element is disposed along the border portion of the absorbent core.

17. The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein at least one compliant element is disposed along the central portion of the absorbent core.

18. The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the backing layer seals the peripheral edges of the absorbent core.

19. The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the absorbent core contains a plurality moisture absorbent particulates freely enmeshed therein.